

JOHN FREDRICK OHLWILER  
AND RHODA ELIZABETH  
HICKEN OHLWILER



John Fredrick Ohlwiler was born on September 26, 1871, to Henry and Eliza Jane Harvey Ohlwiler. Rhoda Elizabeth Hicken was born on November 8, 1874, to Addison and Sophia Elizabeth Moulton Hicken. They were married in the Salt Lake Temple on June 26, 1895.

They had been married 2½ years and had one daughter, Venola, when, on February 10, 1897, while helping his father clean the barnyard, 600 pounds of frozen fertilizer he was undermining fell on him, breaking his back. Dr. John W. Aird and a consulting doctor from Park City said he could not live, but the entire community fasted and prayed for his recovery. And their prayers were answered.

Although he was crippled and had to use crutches, and later a cane for support, he lived an active, successful and happy life. He was secretary of the Wasatch and the North Field Irrigation Companies from 1900 to 1938. He worked at Hatch's Creamery, located on Creamery Ditch, north of Heber, and at the Steambolt Drain Tunnel. He was custodian of the Central School and the Third Ward chapel from 1902 to 1930.

His wife, Rhoda, was his companion in every way, aiding in his activities and working to supplement his income. She was a seamstress when the complicated fashions of the day, with their plaits, ruffles, linings, tucks, and bows took days of patient

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and skillful endeavor. And for a finished article, even an elaborate wedding dress, she received from \$1 to \$2.50. She made her wedding dress (shown in the picture).

She was a religious, wonderful person. She administered by night or by day to the needy, the sick, the dead. This was a service of love.

To John and Rhoda were born four daughters and two sons: Venola Cowley, Thelma Wootton, Nellie Kowalls, LeOra Lindsay, Wendell and Ferrin Ohlwiler. Venola, Wendell and Ferrin fulfilled missions for the Church. They are all civic, Church and community workers.

*Timpanogos Irrigation Co*  
*4 Canals*